

REMARKS

Claims 5, 15, 18 and 21 are all the claims pending in the application. The remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The specification has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claims 5 and 15 have been previously allowed. Claims 18 and 21 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, thereby overcoming the objection to these claims and placing them in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are now in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/603,927

DOCKET NO. Q76299

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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